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**CHAPIN ROSE**  
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May 13, 2014

President Robert A. Easter  
University of Illinois  
364 Henry Administrative Building  
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear President Easter,

I write today as an elected legislator that represents much of east-central Illinois, a double alumnus of the University of Illinois, and an interested citizen regarding the recent news of administrators at the Urbana-Champaign campus beginning discussions of a partnership with the Carle Medical System to open a new medical school at the flagship campus.

I recognize that conceptually we are only in the infant stages of this project and that many questions remain, but I believe very strongly in the potential positive economic, academic, and healthful effects such an undertaking would mean for our region, the State of Illinois, and our country. I agree and share the enthusiasm expressed in Sunday's News Gazette Editorial (May 11, 2014) which opined, "the kind of technological advances being contemplated would surely generate spinoff companies, and the resulting economic development could be transformative."

Moreover, our nation is facing a critical shortage of physicians. According to the Wall Street Journal, we need another 150,000 physicians to meet the coming demand for medical care. This urgent priority of medical capacity was the topic of a bill I introduced last year, SB 1576. While that bill was later subsumed into other and ongoing efforts in state government to address the issue, the fact remains that we need more doctors in America. Clearly a proposal such as this should be heralded as addressing that critical need.

If allowed to flourish, a new medical college would provide an economic boon to the region. This is the kind of forward thinking and visionary action our community and state have come to expect of a world class research institution like the University of Illinois. To that end, I would like to lend my voice to the growing chorus of supporters of this incredible opportunity.


Finally, I am joined by my colleagues who also represent Champaign County in the General Assembly in our support for a continuation of this conversation. Signatures to that effect are attached. If I can be of any assistance as the University further explores this idea, please do not hesitate to call.

Best regards,

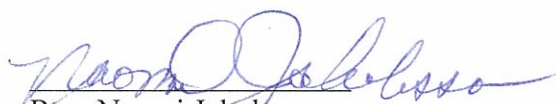


Chapin Rose  
State Senator - 51<sup>st</sup> District

Champaign County area legislators who also support continuing the conversation of creating a medical school at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign:



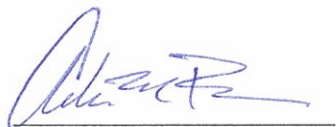
Senator Michael Frerichs



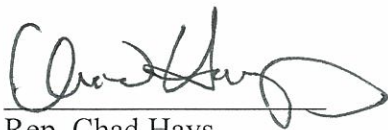
Rep. Naomi Jakobsson



Rep. Bill Mitchell



Rep. Adam Brown



Rep. Chad Hays

Cc:

Governor Pat Quinn  
University of Illinois Board of Trustees  
Phyllis A. Wise, Chancellor